

The Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Board of School Trustees called a Regular Session to order at 7:09 pm. The meeting was held at Knightstown School located at 8149 W. US 40, Knightstown, IN 46148. Those in attendance were:

Attendance:

- **Board Members:** Wade Beatty, Steve Dalton, Mark Fort, Kevin Knott, Leah Kopp, Melissa Toth, Timothy Wehr
- **Central Office Staff:** Gary Storie, Superintendent; Michelle Swift, Treasurer
- **School Administrators:** Scott Ritchie, Shirley Heck, Christy Jordan
- **Classroom Teacher Association:** Jane Rodgers, President; Karen Gardner, Vice President
- **Media:** Knightstown Banner, New Castle Courier Times
- **Patrons:** Approximately 9 patrons

I. Call to Order

Steve Dalton called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. Roll call was taken and all members were present.

II. Minutes

January 19, 2011 – Board of Finance

January 19, 2011 – Regular Session

Leah Kopp moved to approve the minutes. Wade Beatty gave the second, motion carried 7-0.

III. Claims

Timothy Wehr gave the report on behalf of the Finance Committee. Timothy Wehr moved to accept and approve claims in the amount of \$642,482.87 as presented. Kevin Knott gave the second. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. Public Expression

- Jim Hope, 120 N McCullum St., Knightstown – Commented the air conditioning at the elementary buildings and the solar system/windmill project to sell power to the school. He stated this is a poor community, and we should not be getting further into debt. He commented on the ‘good job’ on Elementary and High School improvements. He questioned the pricing on the sports facilities. He heard teacher salaries had been cut and health insurance had been affected. The Board President clarified the teachers’ pensions were not cut. A Board Member further clarified that the change in health insurance was accepted by both the teachers’ union and administration.
- Tom Crawford, 6255 W US Hwy 40, Knightstown – Stated the change in health insurance saved the corporation \$200,000+, pensions were not affected, and teachers did not receive a raise.
- Richard Voris, W. US 40, Knightstown – Stated when he moved to Knightstown there was operating businesses, opportunities, the Soldiers and Sailors Home, etc. Those resources are now gone. He wants the school corporation to stop spending money and concentrate on education.
- John Swartz, 7704 Hyland Meadows Dr., Knightstown – Asked the time line for the Solar project, would it be present, or down the road? The Superintendent explained this meeting was just for information.
- Ron Short, 625 W Main St., Knightstown (Business Address) – Clarified this was a fact finding mission for the solar project. He also asked several questions. He wanted to know if the benefactor of the solar project was also the contractor. He also would like to know if the school would be helping the contractor sell the solar project to other schools. The Board President said the hope would be to reduce the burden on tax payers instead of increasing it.

- Ralph Hecht, 7309 S. Grant City Rd., Knightstown - Where did we get the numbers for SREC documents?
- Rick Trautmann, 9337 S CR 575 W, Knightstown – Stated that he did not know much about the solar project, but would like to know how many of the Board Members, or the employees of the Johnson Melloh company have spent their own money for a similar systems. He would also like to see examples from other businesses that have invested their own money, not because they received a tax benefit, but because they wanted to do it.
- Kevin Knott, Board Member expressed his desire to offer the solar project as a referendum so the public could make a decision whether or not to move forward with a project of this caliber.
- Ron Short, 625 W Main St., Knightstown – Disagreed with Kevin Knott’s approach. He does not believe the members of the community would take the time to educate themselves in order to make a knowledgeable decision.

V. Old Business

- Solar Project – A power point presentation was given. A discussion followed with the patrons and presenters. The attorney then explained the relationship between Johnson-Melloh Solutions and the School Corporation and what would happen if the school pursues the solar project. Much discussion then ensued. After which the Board President brought up the topic of a possible 1028 Hearing. Kevin Knott moved to hold a 1028 Hearing at the Regular Session held on March 16, 2011 and to advertise the hearing. Wade Beatty gave the second. After some discussion, motion carried 7-0.
- KHS Student Handbook Revision – The Superintendent informed the Board of the reasoning for the amendment in the handbook for clarification on the 2% grade reduction penalty for unexcused absences. After discussion, Leah Kopp moved to amend the current handbook with a second by Timothy Wehr. Motion carried 5-1 with Wade Beatty casting the negative vote. (Mark Fort left the meeting prior to voting.)
- Tabled Items:
 - Board Policy #5722, tabled to future meeting.
 - Service Vehicles – Transportation Coordinator put together options to lease three, four, or five vehicles. A Board Member asked how the new vehicles would be utilized. The Transportation Coordinator answered the question and stated the need for new vehicles. Another Member asked for a log on who each vehicle as well as a monthly tally for fuel. It was also asked if older vehicles would have a decreased cost factor. There was discussion regarding the terms of a lease would not allow for older vehicles. The Superintendent recommended the leasing of four vehicles. Melissa Toth moved to accept the recommendation with a second by Steve Dalton. Motion fails 2-3 with Wade Beatty, Kevin Knott, and Leah Kopp casting the negative votes. (Timothy Wehr left the meeting during discussion of this item.)

VI. New Business

- FFA Field Trip to Louisville, KY – Kevin Knott moved to approve the trip with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 5-0.
- Elementary Special Education Position – The Superintendent stated the necessity of this position to provide services to out-lying elementary buildings. Wade Beatty moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 5-0.
- Board Scholarship – Wade Beatty moved to offer a \$700 Board Scholarship to a graduating senior. Leah Kopp gave the second and motion carried 5-0.

VII. Personnel

- Terminations/Resignations
 - Pati Corum – Knightstown Elementary Special Education Aide
- New Hires
 - Ashley Smoot, Knightstown Elementary Prime Time Aide
 - Carrie Ferree, Knightstown Elementary Special Education Aide
 - John Stephens, Substitute Bus Driver

- ECA Appointments
 - James Jahrsdoerfer – Varsity Cross Country – Tabled from January
 - Jackie Jones – KES Math Pentathlon
 - Rana Rodeffer – SS Department Head
 - Jennifer Jacoby & Jena Schmidt – Musical Directors
 - Mike Byrnes – Junior High Track Coach
 - Terry Dukeman – Volunteer Girls Tennis
 - Jim Kayajan – Volunteer Boys Basketball
- Wade Beatty moved to approve all recommendations with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 5-0.

VIII. Superintendent Reports

- The Superintendent asked the Board for clarification on the concession stand. He stated there are discrepancies to the size of the building. After some discussion the Board President suggested no movement at this time until funding can be identified. Kevin Knott moved to approve the additions if funding comes from the Athletic Department. Wade Beatty gave the second and motion carried 5-0.
- Financial Report – The Superintendent presented financial reports for the Board to review. He is projecting a deficit by the end of the year.
- Other – ISBA Collective Bargaining Workshop

IX. Public Expression

- Jane Rogers, CTA President & Teacher at KIS – Asked why the Special Education position would be paid from the jobs bill. She asked if there was a need, why would the cooperative not fund the position. She mentioned other special services salaries have been paid through this funding source.

X. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Wade Beatty moved to adjourn at 10:16 pm.

PRESIDENT

MEMBER

VICE PRESIDENT

MEMBER

SECRETARY

MEMBER

MEMBER